



SPRING CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

A grassroots stakeholder initiative

Spring Creek Watershed Association Meeting

July 21, 2015

7:30 A.M. to 9:30 a.m.

Patton Township Municipal Building
100 Patton Place, State College. PA 16803

Notes

Attendees: Bob Donaldson, Judi Sittler, Barbara Fisher, Bill Sharp, Paul Bartley, Autumn Radle, Ann Donovan, Mike Schmidt, Barbara Newell, Bob Eberhart, Mark Ralston, Todd Giddings, Michelle Halsell, Rob Cooper, Jim Gaza and Kevin Abbey.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. *Mapping/Atlas of the Spring Creek Watershed* - Bob Donaldson, Barbara Fisher and Others

Bob Donaldson said that the Atlas Workgroup had met on July 6 and that after that meeting seventeen people had expressed interest in participating in the Workgroup. He also said that he, Barbara Fisher and Todd Giddings had made a presentation on the Atlas Project to the Watershed Commission. Commission members were enthusiastic about the project, and asked the Workgroup to make a more formal proposal outlining what they hoped to achieve and what the project might cost. A primary function of the Atlas would be to serve as an educational tool for elected officials and other members of the Community.

General Discussion of the Atlas Work Group.

Bob Donaldson reported that Mark Ralston had agreed to serve as a technical advisor to the Workgroup.

Barbara Fisher noted that three publications are being considered as prototypes for the Atlas. These are: The Pennsylvania State Water Plan; a Water Atlas from the Spokane , Washington area; and a Water Atlas from the Lake Champlain Basin. After discussion there seemed to be some preference for the Lake Champlain publication. Todd

Giddings liked the multi-media features of the digital version of this publication including the use of drop-down boxes and other innovative features.

Todd also noted the following sentence from the Champlain Atlas that he especially liked and that he felt our Workgroup should keep in mind: "Informed citizens Make Wiser Choices".

Bill Sharp thought that the Lake Champlain document was an excellent example of an Atlas. He felt that the concept of sustainability should be emphasized in the Atlas being considered by the Workgroup.

Rob Cooper felt that the effects of land use on water resources should be emphasized.

Todd Giddings felt that there is much expertise in our area that should be used in developing the Atlas. Anne Donovan suggested that once topics for inclusion in the Atlas have been chosen, individuals expert in these areas should be identified and asked if they would be willing, as volunteers, to develop specific topics for use in the Atlas.

Kevin Abbey suggested that it might be useful to contact individuals who had helped to develop Atlases in other geographic areas to see if they would be willing to share their experiences with members of our Workgroup. He said that he would be willing to help in arranging these contacts.

3. Next meeting of the Association

Next meeting will be held on September 15, 2015.

No outside speaker will be invited. Instead, the meeting will focus on the Atlas of the Spring Creek Watershed